



# VALLEY CENTER MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

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October 26, 2005

John H. Robertus, Executive Officer  
California Regional Water Quality Control Board  
9174 Sky Park Court, Suite 100  
San Diego, CA 92123

Subject: Skyline Ranch Country Club Wastewater Treatment Plant  
Tentative Order No. R9-2005-0258  
POTW: 01-0223.02:VASQV

Dear Mr. Robertus:

VCMWD received the above referenced tentative order on October 17, 2005 and is in general support of, and is prepared to work cooperatively and proactively to effect, the transfer of the responsibility of complying with the waste discharge requirements to Skyline Ranch Country Club, LLC (SRCC).

As you may or may not know, SRCC had recently, on our recommendation, replaced the existing 30 plus year old facility with a membrane bioreactor treatment unit. SRCC hired an engineer, prepared plans, and contracted directly with the contractor for replacement of the facility. At this time, the plant is substantially complete, operational and is producing an effluent with quality well within the discharge requirements for the facility.

With the pending transfer, we felt it important to inform the RWQCB that, if the District were to continue to own and operate the facility, there were a number of specific modifications and upgrades we felt important to complete the project. These items include the following:

- 1) **Noise abatement of the blower facility, return activated sludge pumps and effluent pumps to bring the facility into compliance with County of San Diego noise standards.** This equipment runs essentially 24/7 and generates considerable noise. The noise abatement facilities provided with the recent plant upgrade were not sufficient to lower the sound to an acceptable level at the property line.
- 2) **Expanded and improved spill containment for the facility.** While the facility has overflow protection for the effluent portion of the plant, the majority of the tanks have limited excess storage and no overflow containment. If they were to overflow, untreated wastewater would spill into an area that is not contained on site and could possibly flow off the site onto adjacent property.
- 3) **Permanent foundation for the aerated sludge holding tank.** This tank is currently located in the drying bed containment area and should be located on a permanent foundation with seismic restraints.

- 4) **Replacement of one existing effluent pump.** The upgrade project replaced one of the effluent pumps. However, since that time, the redundant pump failed and needs to be replaced.
- 5) **Replacement of the sludge recirculation pumps.** The pumps provided by the treatment plant manufacturer are not well suited for pumping sludge and tend to leak and create housekeeping and vector control problems. We have requested these pumps be upgraded to a type more suitable for sludge.
- 6) **Paving and Grading.** The site should be re-graded to more effectively route stormwater around the treatment facility while keeping the containment area separate. Also, the existing paving is in need of repair to facilitate proper drainage and to repair damage done during construction.
- 7) **Permanent wash water facilities.** Wash water is provided from an on-site potable source (currently with a reduced pressure backflow device) utilizing multiple hoses on site. VCMWD had requested permanent wash water piping be installed with hose bib connections placed closer to required areas to reduce the potential trip hazard of the hoses.
- 8) **Alarms.** The upgraded facility has on-site alarm notification for equipment failure conditions via the programmable logic controller and operator interface. However, either a phone line or cellular service is needed to enable alarms to be dialed out to the operator in charge of the facility.
- 9) **Lift Station.** The existing lift station is 30 plus years old and lacks 6 hour emergency storage capacity and back-up emergency power. VCMWD had required these facilities to be provided to prevent spills in the event of a prolonged power outage or breakage of the force main. The electrical controls are outdated and should be brought up to current electrical standards along with proper site security measures.

Irrespective of what entity is responsible for the operation of the SRCC Wastewater Treatment Facility, we would recommend that these modifications be completed to provide a facility that can be more easily, efficiently and safely operated in accordance with the waste discharge requirements.

Beyond these specific technical issues, the District would like to raise some additional points and considerations:

**Property Vesting** - The vesting of the property, on which the lift station, treatment plant, and spray field are located, is in the District's name. Four parcels will need to be deeded back to SRCC along the assignment of at least one easement for the effluent line to the spray field.

**Effective Date of Order** -The tentative order appears to be effective the date of adoption, currently scheduled for November 9, 2005. Again, VCMWD offers no objection, but is also not aware of any arrangements being made by SCRR to coordinate a transition of the plant operation to the new operators.

**Additional Interested Parties** – The property owners immediately adjacent to the treatment plant and spray field facilities may be interested in the pending transfer of responsibility. Should the Regional Board staff desire to contact them, I have enclosed a map showing the location of the facilities and the adjacent properties along with a list of names and address from our meter records.

If you have any questions or need any additional information please contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Wally Grabbe', followed by a horizontal line.

Wally Grabbe, P.E.  
District Engineer

WG:ld

Encl. - List of surrounding property owners  
Map of facilities

cc: Mr. Stan Johnson  
Skyline Ranch Country Club  
18218 Paradise Mtn. Road  
Valley Center, CA 92082

Brian Bernados  
State Dept. of Health Services  
1350 Front Street, Room 2050  
San Diego, CA 92101

Mark McPherson  
Department of Environmental health  
County of San Diego  
5201 Ruffin Road, Suite C  
San Diego, CA 92123

Gil Bullock, President  
Skyline Ranch Mobile Home Assoc.  
18218-187 Paradise Mountain Road  
Valley Center, CA 92082

NAME	ADDRESS	CITY, STATE	ZIP	APN_8
DICKERSON, JOHN	27203 LATIGO RD	VALLEY CENTER CA	92082-6833	18932114
FLETCHER, MARY	27187 LATIGO RD	VALLEY CENTER CA	92082-6831	18932113
LANE, WM Z	27161 LATIGO RD	VALLEY CENTER CA	92082-6831	18932112
TOWNSEND, C	27145 LATIGO RD	VALLEY CENTER CA	92082-6831	18932111
ALLEN, JOHN	27123 LATIGO RD	VALLEY CENTER CA	92082-6831	18932110
KAMPS, B	27101 LATIGO RD	VALLEY CENTER CA	92082-6831	18932109
BANNOCK, BRIAN	27306 ROWEL CT	VALLEY CENTER CA	92082-6837	18932205
SHAFFER, JANA	27302 ROWEL CT	VALLEY CENTER CA	92082-6837	18932206
LYLE, AMY	27301 ROWEL CT	VALLEY CENTER CA	92082-6837	18932207
RUSSELL, E	18755 W BERNARDO DR APT 1153	SAN DIEGO CA	92127-3012	18908107
BEANUM, ROLAND	PO BOX 1662	VALLEY CENTER CA	92082-1662	18908102
HARRINGTON TAI J&CARLY A	27697 SUNSET VISTA LN	VALLEY CENTER CA	92082	18908108
PORTER R L&ERIKA	27691 SUNSET VISTA LN	VALLEY CENTER CA	92082	18908105
BLACKWELL, D L	740 METCALF ST UNIT 2	ESCONDIDO CA	92025-1671	18908010,11

Property Adjacent to Skyline Facilities

